MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, so far as the alleged violence at the time of arrest is concerned. In regard to the alleged ill-treatment of the prisoners in the *lock-up*, the District Magistrate, Quilon, has been asked to conduct an enquiry.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I know whether the report contains anything about the violence against the public?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have not seen the report.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I know whether, in the enquiry to be conducted by the District Magistrate, Quilon, the question of violence against the public is also included as a subject of enquiry?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The wording of the reference is general. He has to enquire carefully into the allegations of ill-treatment of the prisoners by the Police in the Alleppey lock-up.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I know whether there is no enquiry on the alleged violence against the prisoners when they were arrested and *taken* to the lock-up?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The District Magistrate has not been asked to enquire into the alleged violence against the arrested persons *on their way* to the lock-up.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Do the Government really believe that, except the statement of the victims, any other evidence is *possible* in regard to the violence in the lock-up?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The victims themselves can give their statements to the District Magistrate. He may also make enquiries of the bystanders and neighbours. If any violence had been used, it would have attracted a crowd and the people who formed the crowd would know it.

Conduct of the Alleppey Police in connection with the arrest of picketing volunteers.

304. MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether their attention has been drawn to the strong public resentment against the alleged inhuman conduct of the Police against the picketing volunteers in Alleppey;

(*b*) whether they are aware of a printed pamphlet published on the 15th Kumbham 1107 over the signatures of thirty-three respectable gentlemen of Alleppey protesting against the action of the Alleppey Police;

(*c*) whether some of the members of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly waited on a deputation before the Dewan and represented the grievances of the public against alleged Police high-handedness in connection with the same; and

(*d*) the action, if any, taken by Government in the matter?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*). Yes.

(*d*) Government have enquired into the allegations made concerning Police action in Alleppey. They are satisfied that no excessive or unjustifiable force was used in arresting those found breaking the law. A further enquiry has been ordered to be made on the allegations of ill-treatment of prisoners while in the lock-up.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : May I know from the member whether, other than the report of the Commissioner, the Government have any evidence on the matter ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The Dewan appears to have made some personal enquiry in the Alleppey town.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : Did the Dewan conduct an open enquiry ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not think he did that.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : May I know whether the findings of the Government on this matter are based entirely on the report of the Commissioner of Police ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The Dewan also has made enquiries in the Alleppey town.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : May I know whether the Dewan, when he went to Alleppey, recorded any evidence?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I do not think he did that. But a further enquiry has been ordered.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : Is it to be conducted by the District Magistrate, Quilon ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : May I know whether the District Magistrate has been ordered to make an enquiry with reference to the allegations made against the conduct of the Police while the volunteers were *being taken* to the lock-up *after* arrest ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : A further enquiry has been ordered to be made on the allegations of ill-treatment of the prisoners *in* the lock-up.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : My question is whether the District Magistrate has been ordered to enquire into the allegations made against the conduct of the Police while the prisoners were *being taken* to the lock-up *after* arrest.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : No.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : May I know whether the allegations made against the Police do not refer specifically to the conduct of the Police *while they took* the prisoners to the lock-up ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I believe the allegations refer to that also.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): I have myself seen the pamphlet referred to in the question; and I find that there are serious allegations in it with regard to the ill-treatment of the arrested volunteers *on their way* to the lock-up also. May I know whether the District Magistrate will be ordered to conduct an enquiry also with reference to this matter?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): What the Government have stated in their answer is only that they are satisfied that no excessive or unjustifiable force was used *in arresting* those found breaking the law. But my question is about the conduct of the Police *after* arrest.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Commissioner of Police enquired into that allegation also.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): What does his report say?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It says that no excessive or unjustifiable force was used.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): The answer refers only to the force used *in arresting* those found breaking the law, and not about the conduct of the Police *after* arrest.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): But the Commissioner of Police seems to have enquired into the other question also.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Has the Commissioner of Police examined any witness?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He says he has.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Does he say that in his report?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He just now told me that he has.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the member be pleased to place on the table a statement of the persons examined?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No; it is confidential.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Since the Government themselves admit that there has been strong resentment as to the alleged conduct of the Police, may I know whether they will be pleased to direct an enquiry being conducted by an impartial committee consisting of officials and non-officials?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I am unable to answer that question, Sir.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Agastisvaram*): I rise to a point of order, Sir. The time allotted for the answering of interpellations is only one hour; and that has expired.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : There is no absolute rule like that. There are only a few questions more and I shall allow the time, taken up for them, towards the close of the day.

Payment of grants to Municipalities.

305. **MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI** (*Parur*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the basis on which grants are given to Municipalities by the Government;

(*b*) the names of the Municipalities receiving grants from the Government; and

(*c*) the names of the Municipalities that had applied for grants ?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) (*a*) The financial condition of the Municipalities is the chief consideration.

(*b*) Haripad, Trivandrum, Neyyattinkara and Padmanabhapuram for the current year [1107].

(*c*) The question is vague as the member has not specified the year or years for which the information is wanted.

Nomination of persons receiving grants from Municipalities as members thereof.

306. **MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI** (*Quilon*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they generally nominate persons, receiving grants from Municipalities, as members thereof ;

(*b*) whether one Mr. Nilakantan Vaidyan receives a grant from the Quilon Municipality ; and

(*c*) whether he is nominated a member of the said Municipality by the Government, and, if so, why ?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) No.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes, to represent an unrepresented minority community in the town.

Abolition of the Sub-Registry Office at Kotamangalam.

307. **MR. K. P. ABRAHAM** (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they received any petition from a deputation representing the inhabitants of Kotamangalam and the neighbouring *pakuthies* objecting to the proposal for the abolition of the Kotamangalam Sub-Registry Office ; and

(*b*) the final decision of the Government on the same ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The matter has not been decided finally.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*) : May I know the date on which the petition was received by Government ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Certain resolutions were passed at a public meeting by the people of Kotamangalam

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly